

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 01932 261518Z

53

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 AID-05 /033 W

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R 241517Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3593

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 1932

EO: 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT CO

SUBJ: SUMMER INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTICS (SIL)

REF: 75 BOGOTA 2469

1. LOCAL SIL REPRESENTATIVE NYMAN CALLED EMBASSY OFFICER FEBRUARY 18 TO DESCRIBE RESULTS OF ORGANIZATION'S EFFORTS TO EXPLAIN ITS PROGRAMS TO LOCAL OPINION LEADERS.

2. NYMAN STATED THAT SIL HAD TAKEN A GROUP TO ITS LOMA LINDA OUTPOST FOR BRIEFINGS AND ON-SITE INSPECTIONS. AMONG THE VISITORS WERE MINISTER OF EDUCATION HERNANDO DURAN DUSSAN AND FAR-LEFT LIBERAL MEMBER OF CONGRESS (AND FORMER ALLENDE ADVISOR) BLORIA GAITAN. ACCORDING TO NYMAN, BOTH GOC OFFICIALS WERE FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY THE SIL PROGRAM. NYMAN SAID THAT THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION DESCRIBED THE SIL ACTIVITIES AS WORK OF VALUE TO COLOMBIA AND PROMISED TO PRESS SIL'S CASE WITH THE GOC.

3. COMMENT: THE SIL OPTIMISM STEMMING FROM THE FAVORABLE COMMENTS OF DURAN AND GAITAN MAY NOT BE ENTIRELY JUSTIFIED. WITH COLOMBIA HEADED FOR MID-TERM ELECTIONS THIS SPRING, IT WOULD BE SURPRISING IF NONE OF THE LEFTIST GROUPS WERE TO MAKE REFERENCE TO SIL. THE SUPPORT TO BE EXPECTED FROM DURAN AND GAITAN IS NOT, IN AN ELECTION YEAR, SUBSTANTIAL. NONETHELESS, THEIR FAVORABLE IMPRESSIONS ARE A POSITIVE ELEMENT. IN ADDITION, THE BOGOTA PRESS HAS PAID LITTLE ATTENTION TO SIL FOR THE PAST MONTH.

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VAKY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, CHURCH SCHOOLS, POLITICAL SITUATION, CONTRACTS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BOGOTA01932
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760072-0778
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760221/aaaaarua.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BOGOTA 2469
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 JUL 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <26 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUMMER INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTICS (SIL)
TAGS: PINT, CO, SIL, (DURAN DUSSAN, HERNANDO), (GAI TAN, BLORIA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006